

I CLAIM:

1. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement devices driven therethrough comprising:

A. a support member extending longitudinally and made of a flexibly resilient material and adapted to be positioned upon a substrate therebelow for mounting thereon, said support member including:

(1) an upper supporting surface defining a support plane extending thereacross for supporting fragile articles thereupon, said upper supporting surface adapted to support fragile articles thereupon in spaced relation to the substrate therebelow to facilitate protection thereof;

(2) a lower supporting surface positioned spatially distance from and below said upper supporting surface and adapted to abut a substrate located therebelow to facilitate mounting thereupon;

B. a mounting member affixed to said support member and extending longitudinally therealong, said mounting member being securable with respect to the substrate in abutment therebeneath for

24 facilitating attaching of said support member with
25 respect thereto, said mounting member including:

- 26 (1) a lower securement surface positionable in
27 abutment with respect to a substrate
28 therebelow responsive to positioning of said
29 lower supporting surface of said support
30 member into abutment with respect to the
31 substrate;
- 32 (2) an upper securement surface located at a
33 position laterally adjacent and below said
34 upper supporting surface of said support
35 member and positioned spaced from and above
36 said lower securement surface, said upper
37 securement surface defining a securement
38 plane positioned spaced below said support
39 plane, said upper securement surface being
40 adapted to receive a securement device driven
41 therethrough into engagement with the
42 substrate therebelow to facilitate securement
43 of said mounting member to the substrate
44 therebelow and for mounting of said support
45 member with the lower supporting surface
46 thereof in abutment with and mounted upon the
47 substrate positioned therebeneath, said upper
48 securement surface defining a safety zone
49 means thereabove in the area below said

50 support plane of said upper supporting
51 surface to facilitate maintaining of spacing
52 between any securement devices extending
53 through said mounting member and any fragile
54 article positioned upon said upper supporting
55 surface.

1 2. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said safety zone means is positioned below said
5 support plane and above said securement plane.

1 3. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said support plane of said upper supporting
5 surface and said securement plane of said mounting
6 member extend parallel with respect to one another.

1 4. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said support plane of said upper supporting
5 surface and said securement plane of said mounting
6 member extend generally horizontally and parallel with

7 respect to one another.

1 5. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said support member and said mounting member
5 are integrally formed with respect to one another.

1 6. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said support member is formed of a fiberboard
5 material.

1 7. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 6
4 wherein said support member and said mounting member
5 are formed integrally from fiberboard material.

1 8. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said support member and said mounting member
5 are formed integrally from medium density fiberboard
6 material to facilitate machining thereof.

1 9. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 further comprising a plurality of securement means
5 capable of being driven into said upper securement
6 surface and through said mounting member into a
7 substrate therebelow for securing said mounting member
8 thereto and for attaching said support member with
9 respect to the substrate immediately below said lower
10 supporting surface thereof.

1 10. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 9
4 wherein said securement means comprise staples.

1 11. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 10
4 wherein said staples are smaller than said safety zone
5 means in order to prevent staples partially embedded
6 into said mounting member through said upper securement
7 surface from extending upwardly through said support
8 plane.

1 12. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said upper supporting surface extends generally
5 horizontally within said support plane and wherein said
6 upper securement surface extends generally horizontally
7 within said securement plane.

1 13. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said upper supporting surface extends generally
5 parallel to and above said lower supporting surface.

1 14. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said upper securement surface extends generally
5 parallel to and above said lower securement surface.

1 15. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said lower supporting surface and said lower
5 securement surface are coplanar relative to each other.

1 16. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 1
4 wherein said support member includes a main body of
5 fiberboard and an upper panel extending over said main
6 body to define said upper supporting surface thereof to
7 facilitate usage thereof supporting of fragile articles
8 thereupon.

1 17. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 16
4 wherein said upper panel has a surface coefficient of
5 friction less than the coefficient of friction of the
6 fiberboard of said main body to facilitate control of
7 movement of fragile articles across said upper
8 supporting surface.

1 18. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough as defined in Claim 17
4 wherein said upper panel is made of a plastic material.

1 19. Means for safely supporting fragile articles being
2 mountable upon a substrate therebelow by securement
3 devices driven therethrough comprising:

4 A. a support member extending longitudinally and made
5 of a flexibly resilient fiberboard material and
6 adapted to be positioned upon a substrate
7 therebelow for mounting thereon, said support
8 member including:

9 (1) a main body of fiberboard;

10 (2) an upper supporting surface positioned on
11 said main body and defining a support plane
12 extending thereacross for supporting fragile
13 articles thereupon, said upper supporting
14 surface adapted to support fragile articles
15 thereupon in spaced relation to the substrate
16 therebelow to facilitate protection thereof;

17 (3) a lower supporting surface positioned
18 spatially distance from and below said upper
19 supporting surface and generally extending
20 parallel with respect thereto, said lower
21 supporting surface adapted to abut a
22 substrate located therebelow to facilitate
23 mounting thereupon;

24 (4) an upper panel of plastic material extending
25 over said main body to define said upper
26 supporting surface thereof to facilitate
27 moving and supporting of fragile articles
28 positioned thereupon;

29 B. a mounting member of fiberboard integrally formed

30 with said support member and extending
31 longitudinally therealong, said mounting member
32 being securable with respect to the substrate in
33 abutment therebeneath for facilitating attaching
34 of said support member with respect thereto, said
35 mounting member including:

36 (1) a lower securement surface positionable in
37 abutment with respect to a substrate
38 therebelow responsive to positioning of said
39 lower supporting surface of said support
40 member into abutment with respect to the
41 substrate;

42 (2) an upper securement surface extending
43 generally horizontally and located at a
44 position laterally adjacent and below said
45 upper supporting surface of said support
46 member and positioned spaced from and above
47 said lower securement surface, said upper
48 securement surface defining a securement
49 plane extending generally horizontally
50 positioned spaced below said support plane
51 and extending parallel with respect to said
52 support plane of said upper supporting
53 surface, said upper securement surface
54 extending generally parallel to and above
55 said lower securement surface, said lower

56 supporting surface and said lower securement
57 surface being coplanar to one another, said
58 upper securement surface being adapted to
59 receive a securement device driven
60 therethrough into engagement with the
61 substrate therebelow to facilitate securement
62 of said mounting member to the substrate
63 therebelow and for mounting of said support
64 member with the lower supporting surface
65 thereof in abutment with and mounted upon the
66 substrate positioned therebeneath, said upper
67 securement surface defining a safety zone
68 means thereabove in the area below said
69 support plane of said upper supporting
70 surface to prevent contact between any
71 securement devices extending therethrough and
72 any of the fragile articles positioned upon
73 said upper supporting surface, said safety
74 zone means being positioned below said
75 support plane and above said securement
76 plane.

1 20. A plurality of longitudinally extending support means
2 arranged extending generally parallel to one another in
3 an array thereof for safely supporting fragile articles
4 thereupon which is mountable upon a substrate

5 therebelow by securement devices driven therethrough,
6 each of said longitudinally extending support means
7 comprising:

8 A. a support member of fiberboard material extending
9 longitudinally and made of a flexibly resilient
10 material and adapted to be positioned upon a
11 substrate therebelow for mounting thereon, said
12 support member including:

13 (1) an upper supporting surface defining a
14 support plane extending thereacross for
15 supporting fragile articles thereupon, said
16 upper supporting surface adapted to support
17 fragile articles thereupon in spaced relation
18 to the substrate therebelow to facilitate
19 protection thereof;

20 (2) a lower supporting surface positioned
21 spatially distance from and below said upper
22 supporting surface and adapted to abut a
23 substrate located therebelow to facilitate
24 mounting thereupon;

25 B. a mounting member of fiberboard material
26 integrally formed with said support member and
27 extending longitudinally therealong, said mounting
28 member being securable with respect to the
29 substrate in abutment therebeneath for
30 facilitating attaching of said support member with

31 respect thereto, said mounting member including:

32 (1) a lower securement surface positionable in
33 abutment with respect to a substrate
34 therebelow responsive to positioning of said
35 lower supporting surface of said support
36 member into abutment with respect to the
37 substrate;

38 (2) an upper securement surface located at a
39 position laterally adjacent and below said
40 upper supporting surface of said support
41 member and positioned spaced from and above
42 said lower securement surface, said upper
43 securement surface defining a securement
44 plane positioned spaced below said support
45 plane, said upper securement surface being
46 adapted to receive a securement device driven
47 therethrough into engagement with the
48 substrate therebelow to facilitate securement
49 of said mounting member to the substrate
50 therebelow and for mounting of said support
51 member with the lower supporting surface
52 thereof in abutment with and mounted upon the
53 substrate positioned therebeneath, said upper
54 securement surface defining a safety zone
55 means thereabove in the area below said
56 support plane of said upper supporting

57 surface facilitate maintaining of spacing
58 between any securement devices extending
59 through said mounting member and any of
60 fragile articles positioned upon said upper
61 supporting surface.